

Teacher of Double Bass, September 2022 (hours to be confirmed)

Job Description

The Role

We are seeking to appoint a dynamic and inspiring Teacher of Double Bass to join a large and thriving music department. The successful candidate will be expected to maintain and enhance the high standards of music tuition and musical activity on offer at Oakham. The person appointed should have high professional standards, enthusiasm, energy, and a clear sense of teamwork. Key qualities also include excellence as a performing musician, a love of teaching, combined with a flair for inspiring the next generation of young musicians. Good administrative, organisational and ICT skills are vital in such a busy department.

The successful candidate will work under the leadership of our Head of Strings, Emily Holland, and will have the opportunity to teach a variety of ages (10 – 18) and abilities. Most music lessons are 35 minutes long, but our more advanced pupils can have longer lessons. We are fully committed to encouraging more young musicians to start the double bass each academic year, and our discounted lesson scheme offers them two terms of half-price tuition (and free use of a School instrument) as an incentive when starting lessons. We are therefore keen to appoint a teacher committed to inspiring new starters every year.

Performing opportunities abound at Oakham. Regular solo opportunities include fortnightly Informal Concerts and weekly Lunchtime Recitals, and string players have the opportunity to perform in the Symphony Orchestra, Chamber Orchestra, String Ensemble and Lower School Strings. Double bass players can also participate in the Big Band.

All visiting music teachers at Oakham are offered contracts of employment and holiday pay, and the current hourly rate for individual tuition is £32.26. The level of remuneration is reviewed annually in line with all teaching staff salaries at Oakham, and travelling expenses are also paid.

Reporting to: Head of Strings & Director of Music

Key Responsibilities

- Commitment to maintaining the Music Department's high standards by showing a dynamic approach to music-making and enthusing pupils with a love of music;
- Teaching piano lessons to individuals of a range of standards, and planning appropriate programmes of study to meet their needs;
- Encourage and prepare pupils for performances and examinations that are appropriate to their ability, utilising knowledge of appropriate exam specifications and performance opportunities that are available;
- Identify, encourage and help to realise each pupil's musical potential;
- Be a good ambassador for music;

- Manage lessons in a way conducive to successful learning and good pupil discipline, making use of rewards and sanctions in line with school policies;
- Follow the department's procedures for timetabling music lessons, record keeping and reporting absentees;
- Maintain an up-to-date knowledge of pupils with special needs by becoming fully familiar with the relevant IEPs;
- When occasion demands, to communicate politely, helpfully and effectively with parents and guardians;
- To complete termly reports (PRs) for pupils in line with School policies and deadlines;
- To participate in Mutual Observation;
- As appropriate, be aware of all departmental and school health and safety requirements, including relevant risk assessments;
- Exercise a duty of care to promote the safeguarding and wellbeing of pupils and contribute to the maintenance of a safe and secure school environment.

Person Specification

| Criteria | Essential | Desirable |
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| Qualifications | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Music graduate (conservatoire or university) and/or higher diploma-level qualification in Music Performance/Teaching | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Evidence of continuing professional development |
| Experience | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prior experience of teaching the double bass (privately or in schools) • Professional playing experience | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Experience of school-based teaching • Track record of successful preparation of pupils for ABRSM examinations. |
| Knowledge and Understanding | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Excellent subject knowledge, including new teaching resources/methods, and examination specifications • Clear understanding of the importance of effective safeguarding | |
| Skills | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Excellent communication skills, with the presence to engage pupils aged 10 - 18 • Flair for creating a positive and motivating learning experience for pupils • Excellent planning and organisation skills • Able to use initiative and work without supervision | |

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Competence in ICT | |
| Personal Attributes | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An inspirational, committed and highly effective teacher who is dedicated to achieving the best pupil outcomes • Enthusiasm for building and maintaining effective relationships with pupils, colleagues and parents • Holding and promoting a positive attitude • Promoting the caring community ethos of the School and its teamwork approach • Commitment to excellent time-keeping and reliability, and high professional standards | |